

## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Norio TAKAGI, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 21, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: POLYESTER SHEET AND FILM PRODUCTION PROCESSES

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:****Page 16, Second Full Paragraph:**

The biaxial orientation in the present invention is sequential biaxial orientation that an unstretched sheet is preheated and stretched in a longitudinal direction and then in a transverse direction, or simultaneous biaxial orientation that an unstretched sheet is stretched in longitudinal and transverse directions simultaneously. Particularly in the case of sequential biaxial orientation, various known stretching methods, for example, a stretching method proposed by JP-A 54-8672 and JP-A 4-297 may be advantageously employed. For example, an unstretched sheet is heated and stretched in a longitudinal direction repeatedly at multiple sections to a total draw ratio of 2 to 10 times and then in a transverse direction to a total draw ratio of 2 to 10 times

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Attorney Docket No.: Q68593

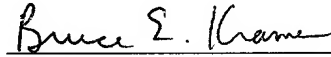
during the step of stretching in the longitudinal direction at multiple sections and/or after the step of stretching in the longitudinal direction to achieve a total draw ratio in the both directions of 4 to 50 times, preferably 9 to 40 times, particularly preferably 12 to 30 times.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Attorney Docket No.: Q68593

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 21, 2002

**APPENDIX**

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**The specification is changed as follows:**

**Page 16, Second Full Paragraph:**

The biaxial orientation in the present invention is sequential biaxial orientation that an unstretched sheet is preheated and stretched in a longitudinal direction and then in a transverse direction, or simultaneous biaxial orientation that an unstretched sheet is stretched in longitudinal and transverse directions simultaneously. Particularly in the case of sequential biaxial orientation, various known stretching methods, for example, a stretching method proposed by JP-A 54-8672 and JP-A ~~4-29754-8672~~ may be advantageously employed. For example, an unstretched sheet is heated and stretched in a longitudinal direction repeatedly at multiple sections to a total draw ratio of 2 to 10 times and then in a transverse direction to a total draw ratio of 2 to 10 times during the step of stretching in the longitudinal direction at multiple sections and/or after the step of stretching in the longitudinal direction to achieve a total draw ratio in the both directions of 4 to 50 times, preferably 9 to 40 times, particularly preferably 12 to 30 times.